A SIGNIFICATION FROM ISRAELS GOD TO Englands Rulers AND Inhabitants, from the higheſt to the loweſt concerning what hereafter ſhall enſue.

Through a Servant of the Lord who deſires the returning to the Lord, and reformation of the lives of thoſe who are yet enemies to the Lord and themſelves, that they may eſcape what the Lord hath threatened againſt the workers of Iniquity. T. Ollive

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For when they ſhall ſay peace and ſafety, then ſudden deſtruction cometh upon them as travel upon a Woman with Child, and they ſhall not eſcape, 1 Thes. 5. 3.

But the Name of the Lord is a ſtrong Tower, the Righteous runeth into it and is ſafe, Prov. 18. 10.

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A

SIGNIFICATION

FROM

ISRAELS GOD

TO

Englands Rulers

AND

Inhabitants, from the highest to the lowest concerning what hereafter shall ensue.

Through a Servant of the Lord who desires the returning to the Lord, and reformation of the lives of those who are yet enemies to the Lord and themselves, that they may escape what the Lord hath threatened against the workers of iniquity. T. O.

For when they shall say peace and safety, then sudden destruction cometh upon them as travel upon a Woman with Child, and they shall not escape. 1 Thes. 5. 3.

But the Name of the Lord is a strong Tower, the Righteous runneth into it and is safe. Prov. 18. 10.

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BRITISH MUSEUM

A Signification from Iſraels God, &c.

OH *England*, *England*'s Rulers from the higheſt to the loweſt, hear the Word of the Lord yea Rulers and Inhabitants of this Land; for behold thus ſaith the Almighty and dreadful God of Heaven & Earth, a happy Land or Nation might *England* have been if you had made your Lawes and Decrees for the ſuppreſſing of evil doers, works and workers of iniquity which aboundeth in this Land, and ſpared my People who fear my Name, and let the oppreſſed go free; which was the thing I required at your hands, and for this very end and purpoſe I gave and betruſted you with power that you might have done the thing that pleaſed me, ſaith the Lord; who raiſed you out of your ſuffering ſtate (wherein many of you was ſenſible of ſufferings) under the hands of your enemies, as many of my People were in their days, and I delivered them into your hands, and brought you to your Dominions again, becauſe they did not the thing that was right before me; therefore they had but their day, and you have had a day alſo; they perſecuted and impriſoned my People, in which ſufferings ſeveral of them ſuffered untill death, and they were guilty of innocent blood, and my hand turned againſt them for their overthrow: But what have you done? your day is yet, have you amended any of theſe things, or have you added affliction to affliction, and ſtrengthened their bands, and cauſed the oppreſſed to groan under your cruelties, which many of you have not ſpared to exerciſe upon them that fear my name? And how have you ſought their ruine and deſtruction, and to ſeparate them from the Land of their Nativity? And how have you been renting and tearing with your might and ſtrength the Husband from the Wife, the Wife from the Husband, and Parents from their tender Children? is this done unto them for evil doing, or becauſe they ſerve and worſhip me, ſaith the Lord? What ſay you to it, if you have found wickedneſs and abomination amongſt them you are the more excuſable; but if it be for the exerciſe of their Conſcience to-

wards Me, and because they can serve none but Me, then woe be unto you for ever except you with speed repent; no longer harden your hearts against me, you shall know I am the Lord, for the day of your recompence is coming; yea, the day is hastening upon you, wherein I will call you to account; and where is the mighty Man amongst you, with all his Lawes and Decrees that will be able to plead with me in the dreadful day of my Vengeance; Oh what account can you give of your Stewardship? you shall know the power and dominion is mine, saith the Lord God Almighty: Did my hand turn against your enemies and delivered them into your hands that you might be a scourge to them? what think you concerning your selves? are you more righteous then they? did not many of you see the evil in them, and have not you exceeded them in a high manner? who shall deliver you, or who shall be able to help you in the day of your distress, or where will you hide your heads in the day of your Calamity if you repent not?

My soul even mournes within me for the Inhabitants of this Land, who have rejected the Councel of the Lord, and hardened their hearts against God: Oh that one might a little prevail with you, that you would set your selves to seek the Lord, and stand no longer in the gainsaying, but turn to the Witness of God in your selves, which reproves you for your evil deeds, that through true repentance you may meet the Lord in *Sion*, that a habitation and a hiding place you may know with the Lord in the mighty day that's hastning upon all the workers of unrighteousness. As I was prest in my spirit to write to thy Rulers and Inhabitants oh *England*, being in deep exercise concerning such a weighty matter, I even set my self to wait upon the Lord, and after some hours waiting upon the Lord, my heart being exercised with him, the God of *Israel* spake on this wise, *Great shall be the increase and gathering of my People, they shall be as the sands on the sea shore; but upon the wicked and ungodly who have provoked me to jealousie, destruction, destruction, desolation, misery and woe, sore Calamities, sword and famine, plague and pestilence, such that never was from the beginning.* Oh the sence of thy misery oh *England* caused my bowels to be moved with compassion for thee; oh how doth my soul pity thee with thy leaders, thy Rulers and all thy Inhabitants, who have set your selves to make war with the Lamb and his Followers: Oh whether will you run, to whom will you fly for refuge? neither

neither hills nor mountains will cover you, neither can you hide your ſelves in the clefts of the Rocks; oh the mighty day of dread and terrour that's haſtning, wherein you will remember your dealings when terrour and fear compaſſeth you about on every ſide; then ſhall you ſay, bleſſed are they that fear God and not Men; oh the cry that will be among you, then ſhall many come crying unto them, that you now ſeek to deſtroy who fear God in deed and in truth, and ſhall ſay, pray to your God for us, that he may ſhew us mercy in the day of our diſtreſs.

In which neither your Gods of Silver nor Gold ſhall be able to deliver you, your Lawes nor Decrees, nor power of darkneſs ſhall be able to help you; and all you inferior Officers in this Land who have put your ſelves forward in this work of perſecuting the People of the Lord; and ſay, *you have the King's law, and you muſt do your office*: Oh that you conſidered what you are about, for it's neither *King* nor *Parliaments* that can ſave, deliver, or excuſe you in this approaching dreadful day of the mighty God, in which he will take vengeance upon his enemies; and this know *oh King and Parliament*, that neither your *Biſhops*, *Deans*, *Prebends*, *Prieſts*, nor *Prelates* that can be a ſaviour to you in the day wherein the dreadful God will execute his pleaſure, though they have taught and inſtructed you in this way, who are ready to flatter with you, and ſay you do God good ſervice in this work; but it will be manifeſt, and you ſhall know in the day of your Viſitation, whether you have done ſervice for the Lord, or whether you have been fighting againſt God; you *Biſhops* with all your Prieſts, you have now a power to uphold you, and great revenues many of you have; but the day of your deſolation ſlumbers not, for the hand of the Lord is turned againſt you, and all your power and lawes to uphold you, it will all be too little for you, for one mightier then you all, hath ſealed his decree concerning you, except you repent: And as I live ſaith the Lord you ſhall partake of what is aforeſaid, according to your doings: Oh my ſoul pitties you, the time is faſt haſtning wherein your coverings will be rent and torne in ſunder, and you ſhall appear as you inwardly are, and you ſhall deceive my People no more ſaith the Lord.

Oh *King*, oh *King*, happy Prince might thou have been, and of renown in deed if thou hadſt never inclined an ear to flattering Prieſts, who for ſelf ends will cry peace, peace; oh that the time

past might suffice, and thou turn to the Lord: bear with me a little oh *King*, and receive a few plain words from one that loves thy soul, who dares not flatter with any but in plainess of speech declare the truth, hadst thou took the Lord for thy Councellor, and inclined thine ear to the witness of God in thee, which would have caught thee to do as thou would, and also to have broke down oppression, and let the Israel of God gone free; surely then Nations should have bowed before thee, and thine enemies not been able to stand against thee, but a prosperous Prince indeed thou should have been. But surely, surely my soul saith within me, well would it be for thee oh King that thou would yet return to the Lord, and wait to know him to be thy chief Councellor, and it may be thou mayest yet be happy; and how honourable will it be for thee to have the Lord for thy Councellor; and to do that which may please the Lord; and herein thou mayest please him who is God of Gods, and King of Kings; as time is yet given thee and power is yet in thy hand, to break off oppression and take the heavy burdens off from the afflicted suffering people of the Lord within thy Dominions. Break their bonds and let them go free in their exercise to the Lord their God, who are willing to be subject to whatever is good, and what better Subjects can a King desire? and this is the truth there is no other way for thy safety, welfare and happiness. But it may be, thy *Bishops* and thy *Priests* will say no; but take heed of their flatteries; and this I have to say concerning them; but I had rather be silent herein, but dare not but declare the truth from the Lord, for the day of their discovery is hastning, wherein they will be loathed, abhorred and hated above all people, because they have been the teachers, leaders and instructers, and have encouraged both Rulers and People in persecuting, imprisoning and banishing them that fear the Lord only, therefore shall they receive a reward according to their doings, but blessed are them who fear and trust in the name of the Lord, for well will it be with them whether living or dying.

And all you both high and low of what ranke or degree soever, who have not yet sinned out the day of your visitation, who have any breathings after the Lord, and desires life everlasting rather then death and destruction: Awake, awake in the name of the Lord, and look to your selves, now is the time, but you know not how long, how long, the Lord hath long borne and forborne,

and

and long hath he waited for the returning of his people from iniquity, transgression and sin; but how have you abonnded therein? many writings, exhortations and warnings have you had, but how slighted, rejected and contemned by the general part, and hath been accounted as a thing of nought, and many hardened their hearts; but in vain do you harden your hearts against the Lord: be not so blind, be not so ignorant, know you not that when the hearts of a people is altogether hardened against God that destruction is near; *remember Pharaoh of old*, how did he withstand the Lord and hardened his heart against God, and what was his end, put it not from your selves, the day draws near you, and whether you will hear or forbear the concernment is to your selves, and the thing its very weighty, you will know and feel it so to be, and as one in the sence of the beholding of your sad and miserable state who fear Man more then God, and the sad calamity which unavoidably will overtake you except you with speed forsake your iniquity, and turn to the Lord; and now I have in dread and fear of the Almighty God given this my testimony amongst you inhabitants of the Land of my Nativity, and in the day wherein you shall see and behold these things come to pass, then will you remember me, and then may you say the Lord hath spoken by me: Oh that mine eyes were as a fountain that I might weep day and night for the Inhabitants of this Land; I am pained, I am pained for thee oh *England*; oh that I might stand in the gap in the terrible day; unto what people under the Heavens hath the Lord been more favourable then to thee oh Land? and how hast thou requited him. Much might be said, but I leave you, look what interest you have in God, for the Witness is near you, by which you for ever will be justified or condemned; and as one who hath received mercy from the Lord my soul shall breath for your return, that your souls may also live; I had been silent in this matter if I could have had rest and peace with the Lord in forbearing; but now I have cleared my Conscience in faithfulness to God and also to you: my soul shall return to its rest with the Lord.

Written in Northampton *County Goal the 3d. of the 5th. Mon. 1666. where I am a Prisoner with near* 80. *more of the people of the Lord at this day, who suffer for the Testimony of a pure Conscience, waiting for the Lord to plead our cause, and clear our innocency in the face of all our enemies.*

Tho. Olive.

POST-

MUSEUM

AND concerning the now afflicted suffering People of the Lord called *Quakers*, who are accounted (by many in this age) as the off-scouring of all things, and a people not fit to live in the land of their Nativity; and many wise Professors say, (who are not faithful to any thing) they are a stubborn self-will'd people, who run themselves into these sufferings and need not, and so seek their own ruine: So they that fear the Lord and depart from iniquity are become a scorn and a by-word amongst them, who can act in their own wills, who please, serve and love themselves before the Lord. Oh what a Generation is this! certainly you shall know they contend not for trifles, but that which they seek, and have and do suffer for, is (of more value then Earthly Crowns) an Inheritance that is Everlasting and Incorruptible, that their souls may live and rest in the Kingdom that hath no end, when time and place shall be no more; happy and blessed will they be in the tribulating day who hath an assurance thereof, wherein neither high nor low, noble or ignoble, professer nor prophane shall find any safety, but those whose trust is in the name of the Lord only and alone for ever; and the faithful in heart who seek nothing but the Glory of the Lord, and can serve none but him, shall walk bold as Lions with their lives in their hands blessing and praising the Lord the God of their Salvation, who have not loved their lives unto death, but have followed through the regeneration, who have a part in the first Resurrection, on whom the second death shall have no power, but in the power of the life of their God shall live and reign triumphing over death, hell and destruction, glorifying God in soul, body, and spirit. Oh will not your ears tingle in the hearing, and will not you stand amazed in the day wherein you will both hear and see the wonderful works of the God of eternal power, and you shall know the Lord is their God and their Saviour in whom they trust, who will work their deliverance in and through the destruction of his and their enemies, and will give them beauty for ashes, and the oyle of gladness for the spirit of heaviness, and thousands shall desire to come to have acquaintance with the God whom they serve, and their hearts inflamed with love to him because of his Heavenly and glorious appearance in and amongst them who have given their Lives to Him. Oh hasten this thy work oh Lord, and prosper it according to thy pleasure, to which my soul and spirit saith, Amen, Amen, Hallelujah, Glory, Honour & Praise unto him that liveth & reigneth for ever.

THE END. T. O.